

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, and claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration.

Rejection of Claims 1-21 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,279,056 issued to Jacobs et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Jacobs") in view of U.S. Patent 6,414,675 issued to Shen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "an inputting unit comprising a touch pad and a plurality of touch pad selection buttons for inputting movement and selection of a pointing cursor when the power switch is in an "ON" state, wherein the touch pad selection buttons of the inputting unit have selection inputting functions used to control a plurality of operations of the optical device drive when the power switch is in an "OFF" state... wherein the audio signal processing unit controls the optical device drive based on selections inputted using the touch pad selection buttons," as recited in claim 1.

In item 5 (page 3), the Office Action notes that Jacobs fails to teach, "an inputting unit comprising a touchpad and a plurality of touchpad selection buttons." Therefore, the Office Action asserts that col. 5, lines 1-5 of Shen discloses this feature. In col. 5, lines 1-5, Shen discloses, "It is also fully possible that a keyboard, or even a pointing device (not shown), of the PC system 50 could be used to enter and manipulate information when the embedded display program 70 is running."

However, Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest touchpad selection buttons used to (1) input movement and selection of a pointing cursor when the power switch is in an "ON" state and (2) to control a plurality of operations of the optical device drive when the power switch is in an "OFF" state. For example, Jacobs does not teach using its stop button 82 in an "ON" state for cursor selection and movement. Col. 5, lines 1-5 of Shen does not teach or suggest moving the functionality of the control panel 60 to the touch pad selection buttons. Instead, col. 5, lines 1-5 appears to suggest separating the functions for pointing the cursor from the functions of controlling a CD drive. Therefore, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1 plus additional

features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 2-7 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

In item 5 (page 4), the Office Action asserts, "Jacobs et al. teaches supplying selection signals based on an "ON" or "OFF" signal of the "main power" to the audio signal processing unit (co. 2, lines 7-21). However, claim 3 depends from claim 1 by way of claim 2. Jacobs does not disclose that the signals to perform the functions in the "ON" state or the "OFF" state come from a plurality of inputting button switches when the respective touch pad selection buttons are pressed. Therefore, claim 3 is further distinguishable from Jacobs and Shen.

As discussed above, Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "a plurality of touch pad input button switches to generate a signal based on a user input;... a bus switching unit to supply the signal to the optical device driver to control an optical device if the system power is disabled and to supply the signal to the touch pad control unit to control a pointing cursor if the system power is enabled," as recited in claim 8.

Claims 9-13 depend from claim 8 and include all of the features of claim 8 plus additional features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 9-13 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Also similarly, Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "generating a signal based on a user input via a plurality of touch pad input button switches; and supplying the signal to an optical device driver to control an optical device if the system power is disabled, and supplying the signal to a touch pad control unit to control movement of a pointing cursor if the system power is enabled," as recited in claims 14 and 19.

Dependent claims 15-18 and 20-21 depend from independent claim 14 or independent claim 19 and include all of the features of their respective independent claim plus additional features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 15-18 and 20-21 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Summary

Claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully submitted that none of the references taken alone or in combination disclose the present claimed invention.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the

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application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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